

**Senate File 2268 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2268

BY HART

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring practitioners to discuss the dangers of opioid  
2 abuse with patients.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 124.309 Prescriptions for opioids  
2 — patient discussion requirements.

3 1. Prior to issuing an initial prescription for an opioid  
4 during a patient's course of treatment for acute or chronic  
5 pain and again prior to issuing a third prescription for  
6 an opioid during the patient's same course of treatment, a  
7 practitioner shall discuss with the patient or the patient's  
8 parent or guardian if the patient is under the age of eighteen  
9 and is not an emancipated minor, the risks associated with the  
10 opioid prescribed, including but not limited to all of the  
11 following:

12 a. The risks of addiction and overdose associated with  
13 opioids.

14 b. The reasons why the prescription is necessary.

15 c. Alternative treatments that may be available.

16 d. The addictive nature of opioids, both physical and  
17 psychological.

18 e. The dangers of taking opioids with alcohol, sedatives,  
19 benzodiazepines, and other central nervous system depressants,  
20 including the possibility of fatal respiratory depression.

21 2. The practitioner shall include a note in the patient's  
22 medical record that the patient or the patient's parent or  
23 guardian, as applicable, has discussed with the practitioner  
24 the risks of developing a physical or psychological dependence  
25 on the prescribed opioid and any alternative treatments that  
26 may be available.

27 3. The board of medicine, in consultation with the board  
28 of pharmacy, shall develop and make available to practitioners  
29 guidelines for the discussion required pursuant to this  
30 section.

31 EXPLANATION

32 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
33 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

34 This bill requires any practitioner issuing an initial  
35 prescription for an opioid during a patient's course of

1 treatment to first discuss the risks of opioid use and abuse  
2 with a patient or the patient's parent or guardian. The  
3 practitioner is also required to inform the patient or the  
4 patient's parent or guardian of any available alternatives to  
5 the opioid. The practitioner must repeat this conversation  
6 before issuing a third prescription for an opioid during the  
7 patient's same course of treatment. The bill directs the board  
8 of medicine, in consultation with the board of pharmacy, to  
9 develop guidelines for the required discussion.